

# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine Site Screen Report

*This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits and pits. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites lands not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands but that are or may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.*

*The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, to record all immediate site information associated with the mine site and to document the recommendation and/or decision on what additional steps, if any, are needed at the site.*

**Rats Nest AUM Site**

**Navajo AUM Eastern Region**

**Prepared by:**

**Weston Solutions, Inc.**

**Contract: W91238-06-F-0083**

**12767.063.496.1111**

**May 2009**

**Part I              Site Identification, Location and Status****Site Names and ID numbers as applicable****Mine ID:** 1004**Map ID:** E27**CERCLIS:** NNN 000 908 731**NAMLRP:** NOT ASSIGNED**New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID:** NM0164**New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources:** NMMK0163**Local name / Aliases:** Section 3, Santa Fe Christensen, Rimrock No. 1**Chapter and local area:** Inyabito**Lat/Long:** 35.5564436766 N / -108.528115723 W**Nearby road and highway:** NM-566, Interstate 40 **Local Post Office:** Church Rock, NM**Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below**

|                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Tribal Trust Land</b>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Tribal Fee Land</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Allotment</b>           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Fee land</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Public lands</b>        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Private</b>             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Bureau of Land Mgmt</b> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>State</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Ownership and contact information:**

No ownership was identified. The mine site property is classified as Navajo Tribal Trust land.

**Part II        Site Observations**

**Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:**

**0 to 200 feet:** None                    **200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None

**Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:**

**0 to 200 feet:** None                    **200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None

**Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):**

None

**Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:**

**0 to 0.25 miles:** None                    **0.25 miles to 4 miles:** None

**Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.**

None observed

**Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents.**

**Note information on mine ownership, period of operation, and type of mining operation.**

Rats Nest mine consists of a surface area of 49,152.06 square meters with approximately 6,214.34 square meters of underground workings. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear. The site has been identified as reclaimed from by the NAMLRP.

**Part III        Type, number and reclamation status of mine features**

**Provide description and reclamation status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all reclamation caps.**

The site has been identified as reclaimed by the NAMLRP, with a reclaimed reference ID of NA-0552, and reclaimed status source of S06220502. No visual signs of reclamation were identified during the site visit. No waste piles, adits or other mine features were observed during the site visit. Much of the site was inaccessible due to steep grades.

**Part IV        Summary of radiological readings****Background Locations**

#1 8,652 cpm

**Mine site: Rats Nest**

- See Figures 1 and 2

**Nearby Structure Perimeter – None**

**Describe any other radiological measurements:**

A total of 976 gamma radiation measurements were collected from mine sites, ranging from 5,374 cpm to 37,489 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

**Part V        Site sketch of all mine features and readings, including locations of all structures, sources of drinking water and any other important features and radiological readings.**

Presented in Figures 1 and 2

## **Part VI        Response Action Summary**

**Site Name(s):** Rats Nest

**Chapter:** Inyabito

### **Decision Criteria**

**Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site?** None observed

**At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located?** N/A

**At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources?** N/A

**Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site?** None observed

**Is the cap/seal functionally intact?** N/A

**Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases?** N/A

**At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located?** N/A

**At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source?** N/A

### **Summary of emergency response factors**

None

### **Summary hazard ranking system factors**

None

### **Summary of reclamation factors**

The site has been identified as reclaimed by the NAMLRP, with a reclaimed reference ID of NA-0552, and reclaimed status source of S06220502. No visual signs of reclamation were identified during the site visit. No waste piles, adits or other mine features were observed during the site visit

## Part VII Photos



Photo 1. Mine site from top of cliff area, towards the south/southeast



Photo 2. Mine site from top of cliff area, towards the west

**Part VIII Contacts Reports and Information**Name Stanley EdisonTitle or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund ProgramAddress PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515Telephone number 928-871-6861Information provided General Background and Contact/Access Information

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title or official role (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Information provided \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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